

Applicants: Mary Cismowski et al.
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Claims 1-78 (Canceled)

79. (Canceled) An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence which encodes an Activator of G Protein Signaling ("AGS") protein which comprises amino acids having a sequence which is at least 98% homologous to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

80. (Canceled) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79, wherein the protein comprises amino acids having a sequence which is at least 99% homologous to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

81. (Currently Amended) The An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence which encodes an Activator of G Protein Signaling ("AGS") protein which comprises of claim 79, which encodes a protein comprising amino acids having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

82. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79 81, wherein said protein activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.

83. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 79 81, wherein said nucleic acid is a human nucleic acid.

84. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising nucleotides having a sequence encoding the same AGS protein, which is encoded by the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3, or a full complement to the isolated nucleic acid.

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85. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, wherein the nucleotides have a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
86. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, comprising nucleotides having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.
87. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which encodes a protein that activates G protein-coupled signal transduction in a G protein-coupled receptor independent manner.
88. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 84, which is a human nucleic acid molecule.
89. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim ~~79~~ 81.
90. (Previously Presented) The vector of claim 89, which is a recombinant expression vector.
91. (Previously Presented) A host cell containing the vector of claim 89.
92. (Previously Presented) A method for producing an AGS protein comprising culturing the host cell of claim 91 in a suitable medium such that AGS protein is produced.
93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92, further comprising isolating an AGS protein from the medium of the host cell.